

Volume CXXV JANUARY, 2018



# Freestyler

The Official Publication of the Atlanta Figure Skating Club

ATLANTAFSC.ORG

## March into Magnolia!



The 2017 Magnolia Open will be held on March 9 - 11 at The Cooler. Please welcome our distinguished panel of officials: **Greg Cannon**, Chief Referee; **Michael Rowland**, Chief Accountant; **Cathy Brinkman**, Technical Accountant; **Kimberley Moore**, Assistant Accountant; **Lori Dunn**, Technical Controller; and **John Richardson**, Chief Music/Announcing.

### New This Year

No Test - Juvenile and Adult Gold well-balanced free skate events will be judged under IJS. **ALL** music must also be uploaded to the EntryEeze site.

### Exhibitions

Exhibitions for members will be performed during Club Ice on **March 2**. Please email Jennifer Latham by **February 23** at [mikejenlatham@comcast.net](mailto:mikejenlatham@comcast.net) to reserve a spot. Skaters will be accommodated on a first-come, first-served basis.

### National Showcase

Competitors who place first through fourth in a non-qualifying contested showcase/theatrical/interpretive skating event will receive an invitation to compete at the National Showcase event in August.

### Volunteers

Our chairs will be contacting members to fill positions in all areas based on your selections through membership renewals. We will also need food donations for coaches' hospitality. Sign up links will be emailed soon.

Please be generous with your time and talent!

### Questions

Please contact [competitionchair@atlantafsc.org](mailto:competitionchair@atlantafsc.org).



- January 26, Club Ice LTS/ Bring A Friend; National Skating Month
- February 9, Family Olympic Ceremony Party
- March 2, Magnolia Open Exhibition
- March 9 - 11, Magnolia Open

## Local Organizing Committee

Announcing/Music	John Richardson
	Heather Stables
Awards	Tea Junnila
Coaches Hospitality	Andrea Rafanelli
	Jennifer Latham
	Pam Palmer
Cooler Liaison	Herbert Wiesinger
Goody Bags	Marybeth Rathbun
Officials Liaison	Lori Malthaner
Ice Monitors	Gaia Shamis
Competition, Practice	
IJS Set-Up	Sharon Hyre
Officials Hospitality	Janet Payne
Operations	Tea Junnila
Locker Rooms	Victoria Williams
Program	Dana Forehand
Registrar	Jane Jud
Registration	Sarah Bolocan
Runners	Candace Goodwin
Set Up/Break Down	Wade Williams
Volunteers	Heather Stables

## Judges

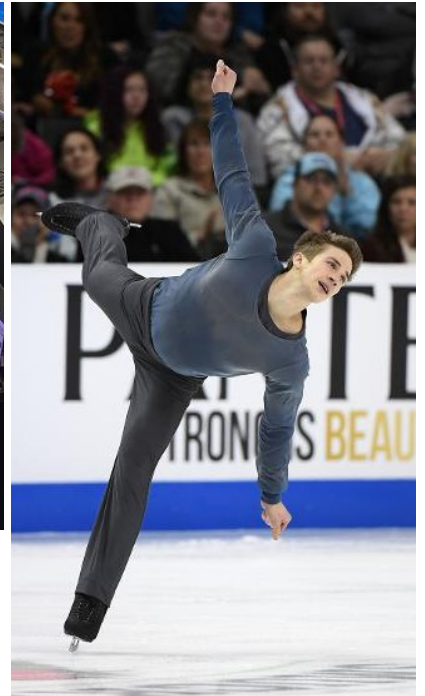
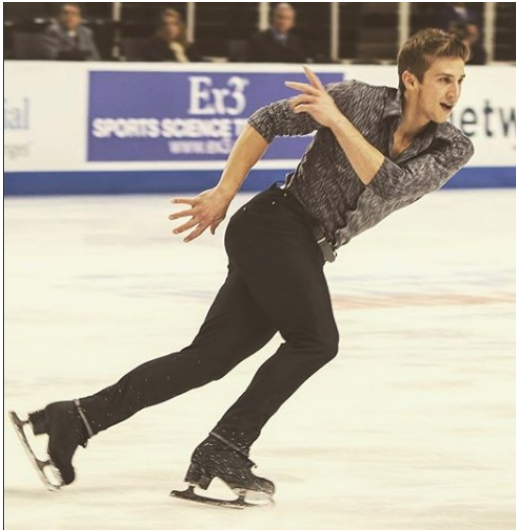
Lisa Boyer	Gloria Lewis
Jeannette Doney	Lori Malthaner
Suzanne Ferguson	Pam Pangle
Marc Galonsky	Julie Pierce
Beth Graham	Sara Stephens
Dana Graham	Breelie Taylor
Catherine Hackney	Soucci Taylor
Nancy Hoblack	Tony Torres
Tea Junnila	Christina Vandermissen
Jana Kading	Ginger Whatley
Sonja Kaminski	Brook Ziegler





# Congratulations, Tim!

Congratulations to our own Senior Men competitor **Tim Dolensky**, who placed 7th at the 2018 U.S. Championships on December 29 - January 7 in San Jose, CA. He scored a personal best of 85.06 for his short program and a total of 236.33. We are so proud of your quad Salchow!



Alice Qiao, USFS Scholastic Honors Team!



Tim with the legendary Dick Button!



Tami



Helena





## 2018 Solo Dance Series Participating Events Eastern Section

Event	Location	Section	Club	Dates
2018 Morris Open	Morristown, NJ	Eastern	SC of Morris	4/6 - 4/8
Southern CT Open	Darien, CT	Eastern	SC of Southern CT	4/20 - 4/22
May Day Open	Laurel, MD	Eastern	Gardens FSC of MD	5/10 - 5/12
Picken Dance Competition	Reston, VA	Eastern	Washington FSC	6/1 - 6/3
2018 Atlanta Open	Alpharetta, GA	Eastern	Atlanta FSC	6/7 - 6/9
2018 Chesapeake Open	Laurel, MD	Eastern	Baltimore FSC	6/20 - 6/23
Orange Blossom Open	Oldsmar, FL	Eastern	Tampa Bay SC	7/5 - 7/8
Skate Wilmington 2018	Wilmington, DE	Eastern	SC of Wilmington	7/18 - 7/22
Lake Placid Ice Dance Championships	Lake Placid, NY	Eastern	SC of Lake Placid	7/24 - 7/27



### U.S. Figure Skating Launches Lifetime Competitor Recognition Program

U.S. Figure Skating has launched this new program as an opportunity to recognize competitive adult skaters who have successfully demonstrated longevity in the sport through their ongoing participation in the U.S. Adult Championships. To participate in the program, skaters must enroll online at <https://fs12.formsite.com/USFSAIT/form2020/index.html>. There is no charge to sign up.

After initial registration, skaters' past U.S. Adult Championships competitive history will be verified and updated automatically. Each year a participant competes in any event at the U.S. Adult Championships adds another year of credit. Recognition levels range from pewter (5 years of competition) to platinum (25 years).

Additional information is available on the USFS website under Adult Championships.

### Two Members Achieve Top S.T.A.R.S. Scores



Congratulations to **Georgia Bolocan** and **Katia Kochengina** for their achievements at S.T.A.R.S, the USFS assessment of off-ice fitness and development. **Georgia** nailed the highest national score for Intermediate ladies, 11 - 14 years old. See article in *Skating* magazine below. **Katia** achieved the highest score in the Eastern Section among girls 6-10 years old, missing the highest national score by only 7 points.



#### Georgia Bolocan Top Female 11-14 Years Old Intermediate Ladies Atlanta FSC

Bolocan participated in her fourth S.T.A.R.S. combine in Atlanta this past season. She appreciates the focus that the S.T.A.R.S. combine has brought to her training, and enjoys measuring her annual improvement in skating-related skills.

In 2016, she was forced to take a year off to heal a nonskating-related knee issue. Thanks to a rigorous off-ice strength and conditioning program and her ded-

ication in sticking to the workouts, she regained her level of jumps and other skills quickly upon returning to the ice.

Bolocan continues to use an off-ice program to build her strength and flexibility to reach her goals. She aims to be a top competitor in intermediate ladies this season. She continues to develop her own style, working to highlight her skills with sophisticated and entertaining choreography.

Bolocan is also focused on completing her eighth-grade school assignments, and enjoys making jewelry and origami.

## Introduction to Synchronized Skating December 8



We hosted a full house of more than 40 skaters for this special event! Three groups ranging from beginner to juvenile learned basic elements.

Thanks to **Kathy Shehee** for introducing our two guest coaches, **Marie Bureau** and **Iina Valtonen**, to **Jennifer Latham** for the decorations and cake, to **Tori Williams** for announcing, to **Tea Junnila** for coordinating the event, and to **Herbert Wiesinger** for the technical equipment set-up.

At the second event on January 12, 39 skaters and four coaches participated in on-ice drills, and almost all expressed interest in joining a team!



Club President Kathy Shehee





## Intro to Synchro January 12



I ♥ Synchronized skating

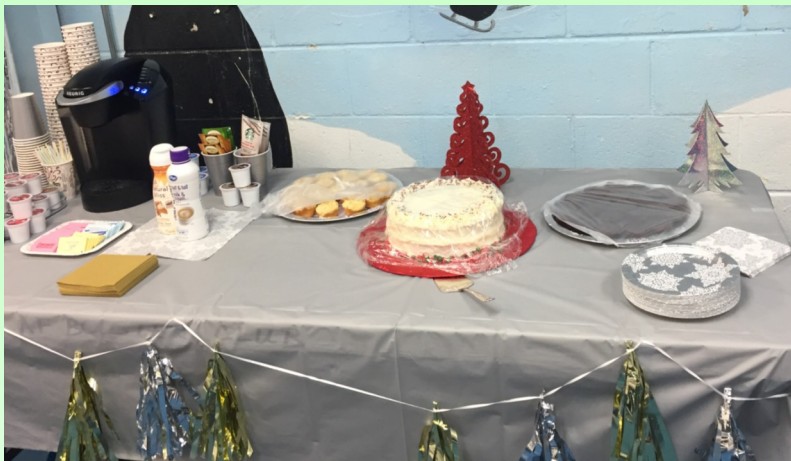






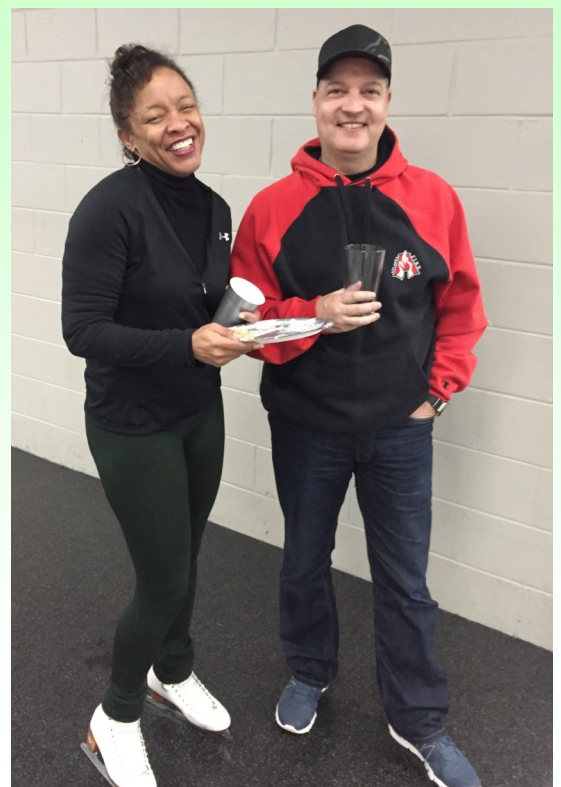
# Adult Holiday Club Ice

December 16



Twenty-two adults skated to holiday music, enjoyed the delicious treats provided by coordinator **Gaia Shamis**, and reveled in the season at our Adults Only Holiday Club Ice.

Many thanks to Gaia and to **Tea Junnila** for the photos.





# CLUB ICE SPECIAL EVENT

COOKIE EXCHANGE AND UGLY CHRISTMAS SWEATER CONTEST  
DECEMBER 8



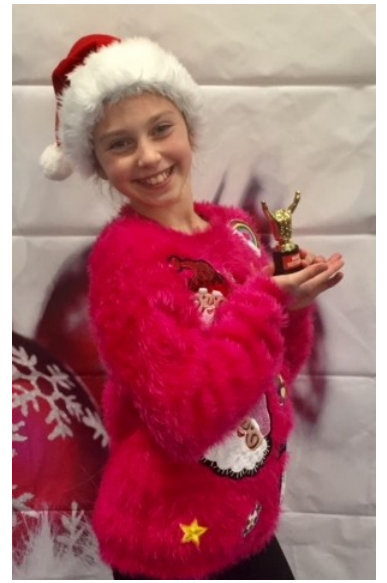
The annual Ugly Sweater and Cookie Exchange Club Ice was attended by 24 members. Thanks to **Pam Palmer** and **Andrea Rafanelli** for the festive decorations, games, and prizes, and to **Tori Williams** for handling the on ice events and games contests.















# SPOTLIGHT SKATER

## Chloe Rutter

### What are your favorite and least favorite elements?

*My favorite elements are spins and jumps because they challenge me. I do not have a least favorite element, I like it all!*

### Favorite program

*My favorite program was my 2017 free skate to a piece of music called "The Buzz" which was great fun to skate to.*

### Competitive accomplishments

*I made final rounds at the 2015 regionals and moved to Juvenile in 2017. In December I passed my senior Moves in the Field test, which made me proud.*

### Best advice you have ever received

*Hard work beats talent when talent doesn't work hard ~ Tori Williams*

### Most memorable event of your skating career?

*I remember doing a Lutz jump but the exit door was open. I jumped through it and fell out of the rink.*

### Who is your favorite skater?

*I admire Nathan Chen for his consistency in landing so many quads and also being able to have great footwork and spins. It's great to see how he keeps improving.*

### Tell us something about yourself or your family that no one knows.

*I still sleep with my teddy bear whose name is Teddy.*

### I most admire

*My Mom and Dad because they put me first and love me no matter what. They also both work really hard.*

### Tell us about your school and extracurricular activities.

*I am in 5<sup>th</sup> grade Rivers Academy, and my favorite subject is science. I do ballet and ballroom dancing and also tumbling.*

### Tell us about your family.

*I have 3 dogs named Milo, Nadi and Millie.*

### My family is most like the television show

*"Fixer Upper" because we love to look at houses and fix them.*

### What famous person would you most like to meet

*Joanna Gaines because I would love her job.*

### What are your future skating and educational goals?

*I want to make it to sectionals and nationals one day. This year I am working to land my double Axel.*

*I want to be an architect and yes I am going to attend college. Yes, I will always skate.*

### My three favorite things are

*Teddy, my phone and my sparkly shoes*

### If I weren't a skater, I would have been

*A dancer.*

### Three words that best describe me:

*Smart, stubborn and kind*

### If you were stranded on a deserted island, you would you absolutely have to have

*My teddy bear, my cake squishy and food*

### Who would you choose to play you in the movie of your life?

*Me because I know me the best*

**Favorite word:** Confidence

**Least favorite word:** Won't

**Favorite Food:** Pickles

**Least Favorite Food:** Ketchup and lobster

**Favorite TV Show:** "Fixer Upper" on HGTV

**Favorite Book:** The Sister Grim and Dork Diary series

**Favorite Song:** "The Greatest Show" from the movie

**Favorite Colors:** Green, purple, blue, coral, silver and all neon colors

**Sound I love:** Cheering

**Sound I dislike:** Nails on a chalk board

**Pet Peeve:** When my arms are out on a jump.

**What turns me off:** When my dog won't cuddle me.

**I would never want to be:** Professional footballer because I don't want to get squashed.

**Favorite vacation:** England

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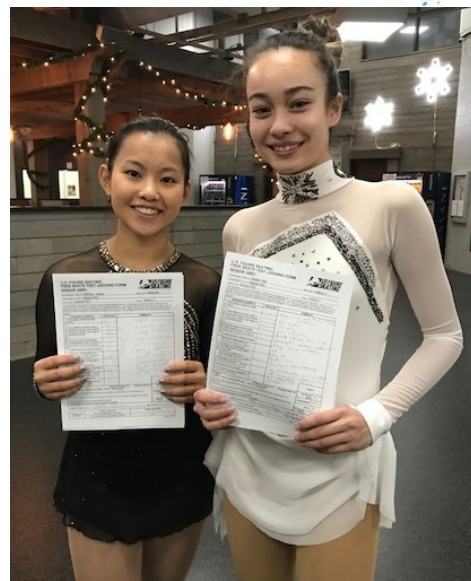
# Tests Passed

## December

Grace Rathbun	Senior Free Skate
Nile Ziegler	Senior Free Skate
Frances Umezaki-Oba	Junior Free Skate
Kaitlyn McGarigle	Junior Moves
Madeline Freeman	Novice Moves
Elizabeth Douglas	Intermediate Free Skate
Olivia Kim	Intermediate Free Skate
	Intermediate Moves
Melanie Schael	Intermediate Free Skate
Emma Grace James	Juvenile Free Skate
Anna McPeak	Juvenile Moves
Isabelle Chalker	Pre-Juvenile Free Skate
Riya Kinnarkar	Pre-Juvenile Moves
Te-Shandra Haskett	Adult Pre-Bronze Free Skate
Joshua Glass	Preliminary Moves
Sidney Parker	Preliminary Moves
Aryana Bhattacharyya	Pre-Preliminary Moves

## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to our newest gold medalists - **Grace Rathbun** and **Nile Ziegler** - who passed their Senior Free Skate tests!



## IN MEMORIAM



We are saddened to learn of the passing of one of our long-time club members, Board of Directors member, and former *Freestyler* columnist **Beth Bilka**. She was one of our shining stars for her wit, sense of humor, and kindness, both on and off the ice. She will be greatly missed. RIP, dear friend.

*Catherine Elizabeth Watson Bilka, 54, of San Francisco, passed away peacefully on December 26, 2017 with her fiancé, Aaron Spiteri, at her side. She was born December 10, 1963 in Atlanta, GA, to Thomas K. Watson and Pat Watson. She is survived by her son, Erick Thomas Autry, her mother, her fiancé, two sisters, Lynne Watson Dupree and Sherry Watson, and four nieces.*

*Beth was a truly remarkable and beautiful woman, full of life, humor, charisma, and love. She was an inspiration to many of us with her adventurous and generous nature. She will be loved and missed by many.*

## Congratulations

Tea Junnila

Gold Singles  
Test Judge  
Appointment



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Emilia Kuehn	1	Kristin Fuhr	19
Lila Mutch		Elizabeth Wright	20
Bailey Snead	2	Johnson	
Alexandra Silvia	3	Elizabeth Douglas	22
Chloe Malenfant		Isabella Giordano	23
Bridget Cornelison	5	Chrissy Imperiale	26
Nikki Belmonte	7	Helena Fisher	27
Anna McPeak	8	Laurie Vieth	
Madeline Freeman	9	Mia Rafanelli	
Amy Kilheffer	13	SameStandridge	29
Jeanelle Choi	19	Alexis Chiang	31

Mengsi Chen  
Anissa Durairaj  
Sona Durairaj  
Chun Lee



Kellyn Matthews  
Gloria Matthews  
Mark Riley  
Emylin Yu



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# Upcoming Events

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATES</u>	<u>SPONSOR/LOCATION</u>
Club Ice LTS/Bring A Friend National Skating Month	January 26	Atlanta FSC
Test Session	February 2	Atlanta FSC
Family Olympic Ceremony Party	February 9	Atlanta FSC
Test Session	March 9	Atlanta FSC
<b>MAGNOLIA OPEN</b>	<b>March 9 - 11</b>	<b>Atlanta FSC</b>
Eastern Adult Sectional Championships	March 9 - 11	Philadelphia SC & HS Ardmore, PA